SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
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Bulletin No 6
June '50

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP GROUP

Special Libraries Association
GEOGRAPHY AND MAP GROUP

Officers

Chairman	Dr. Burton W. Adkinson, Director, Reference Department, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.
Vice-Chairman	Miss Nordis Felland, Librarian, American Geographical Society, New York 32, New York.
Secretary	Mrs. Jane Brewer Amann, Brentano's Book Store, 1322 F Street, N. W., Washington 4, D. C.
Membership Chairman	Mr. Arthur B. Carlson, New York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West, New York 23, New York.

Local Officers

	New York	Washington
Chairman	Mr. Jacques S. Frazin Rand McNally & Company 111 Eighth Avenue New York 11, New York	Miss M. Kathleen Irish Library, Army Map Service 6500 Brooks Lane Washington 16, D. C.
Vice-Chairman	Miss Ruth M. Crawford American Broadcasting Company 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York 20, New York	Mrs. Grace Osterhus Library, Daughters of the American Revolution Washington 6, D. C.
Secretary	Mr. Arthur B. Carlson N. Y. Historical Society 170 Central Park West New York 23, New York	Miss Mary Murphy Library, Army Map Service 6500 Brooks Lane Washington 16, D. C.
Treasurer		Miss Eva Lieberman Library, Naval Ordnance Laboratory White Oaks Silver Spring 19, Maryland
Membership Chairman	Mr. Paul B. Lee General Drafting Company, Inc. 21 West Street New York 6, New York	Miss Barbara Heath Library, Army Map Service 6500 Brooks Lane Washington 16, D. C.
Program Chairman	Miss Ena L. Yonge American Geographical Society Broadway at 156th Street New York 32, New York	Mrs. Grace Osterhus Library, Daughters of the American Revolution Washington 6, D. C.

A WORD FROM OUR ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN

The past year was one of regular, but not spectacular activity. Miss Ena L. Yonge and Miss Nordis Felland are to be congratulated on the excellent March 15, 1950 issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, devoted to "Maps in the Library," which they so competently organized and edited. My appreciation is also expressed to those who made it possible by contributing the useful articles.

Both the Washington and New York Groups had stimulating programs which attracted good attendance at meetings during the past year. The various committees have been working at their various projects, and are now in a position to make real progress during the coming year.

I wish to thank the officers and members of the Group who have assisted me in performing Group business during this past year. Miss Ruth M. Crawford, especially, deserves our heartfelt thanks for the excellent program which she has organized for the SLA Convention in Atlantic City, June 12-16, 1950.

In order to remain a vigorous group, and to live up to the SLA motto of "Putting Knowledge to Work," I have three proposals for work projects for the coming year. These are submitted for the consideration of the members, from whom I would be happy to receive comments:

(a) A list of small scale maps on various projections and useful for various purposes. -- To my knowledge there is no source to which one can turn to find a list, for instance, of world maps on azimuthal-equidistant projections, centered on various places throughout the world.

(b) A manual on globes. -- It has been suggested to me that the Group consider this project, oriented toward the evaluation, selection, care, etc., of globes.

(c) A comprehensive compilation on all the aspects of maps in libraries. -- The articles in the March 15, 1950 issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL were necessarily quite brief and did not touch upon several important aspects of maps in the library.

I am receptive to proposals of such other work projects as any of you may be willing to make. There is much to be done in the field of geography and maps. Your suggestions as to the best way in which our Group can expand its energies in serving your needs will be carefully considered.

The annual business meeting of the Geography and Map Group in Atlantic City will give us an opportunity to discuss these proposals along with other topics of interest to the Group. If you cannot attend, write me or your local Group chairman an expression of your views on matters related to the Group.

Sincerely,

Burton W. Adkinson
Chairman, Geography and Map Group
Special Libraries Association

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP GROUP PROGRAM
for the
41st ANNUAL CONVENTION, SLA, ATLANTIC CITY, June 12-16, 1950

Chairman - Miss Ruth M. Crawford, American Broadcasting Company, New York
Hospitality - Miss Ena L. Yonge, American Geographical Society, New York
Information - Mrs. Clara Le Gear, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.
Publicity - Miss Nordis Felland, American Geographical Society, New York
Registration - Mr. Arthur B. Carlson, New York Historical Society

Monday, June 12, 10:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon

First General Session of the Association

Monday, June 12, 8:30 P.M.

Informal Reception and Entertainment

Tuesday, June 13, 8:30 P.M.

Joint Meeting, Geography and Map Group - Transportation Group
Speaker: Mr. Spencer Miller, Jr., N. J. State Highway Commissioner
Subject: Transportation and Planning of Highways

Wednesday, June 14, 9:00 A.M.-12:00 Noon

Group Breakfast (in private room)
Speaker: Mr. Nathaniel Abelson, Map Librarian of the United Nations
Subject: Map Problems of the United Nations

Wednesday, June 14, 2:30-5:00 P.M.

Business Meeting of the Geography and Map Group

Wednesday, June 14, 7:30 P.M.

Banquet
Speaker: Major General Edward C. Rose, Vice-President, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Newark, New Jersey

Thursday, June 15, 9:30 A.M.-12:00 Noon

The Association's Annual Business Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 2:00-5:00 P.M.

Discussion and vote on proposed SLA Constitutional changes

Thursday, June 15, 9:00 P.M.

Motion picture: Secret Land: U. S. Navy film depicting Admiral Byrd's Antarctic Expedition

Friday, June 16

All day excursion to Philadelphia, to visit the Aero Service Corporation, Photogrammetric Engineers. There will be a tour of the plant, and a discussion on relief models, as to their construction, use and value. Transportation will be arranged at the Convention. Owners of cars, please volunteer to take extra passengers if space is available.

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It is hoped that members of the Geography and Map Group will make a special effort to attend the Convention, even if for only part of the program. Plan to attend the Group Business Meeting on Wednesday afternoon, as matters of importance to the Group will be discussed. The tentative program for the 41st SLA Convention appeared in the April issue of SPECIAL LIBRARIES, and further information will be found in the May-June issue, as well as in local Chapter News. Members will find it much to their advantage to attend the general sessions and other specially arranged programs.

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Check this preliminary program with the one you receive upon registration for any possible changes.

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GROUP REPORTS

New York Group — Jacques S. Frazin, Chairman

Four meetings were held during the year 1949-50 as follows:

October 13, 1949, a dinner meeting at Matty and Ray's Restaurant at which Dr. Burton W. Adkinson gave an illustrated talk on his trip to the International Geographical Union's 16th Congress at Lisbon, was reported in the Group Bulletin No. 5.

December 15, 1949, the Group visited the Grand Central Terminal, and were conducted "Behind the Scenes" on a tour of about two and one-half hours which was preceded by an introductory speech. Thirty members and guests were present to inspect the handling of trains, the reservation facilities, control rooms, etc.

February 6, 1950, the Group were entertained at the cartographic studio and residence of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Edes Harrison on East 51st Street, New York. After cocktails, a very delicious turkey dinner, prepared by Mrs. Harrison, was served to the thirty-five members present. Mr. Harrison had prepared an exhibit of his maps, and gave a most interesting talk on "How prospective maps are made."

April 18, 1950 at the Consolidated Edison Company, through the courtesy of Mr. Frank E. Vilas of the Public Relations Department, the Group was entertained at their Waterside Plant, adjacent to the United Nations site on Fifth Avenue. Mr. J. C. Fisher, Engineer of the Electrical Engineering Department, addressed the Group and explained the problems involved in relocating the subsurface structure of public utilities along

Fifth Avenue and adjacent areas owing to the construction of the United Nations buildings, and illustrated his talk with slides, diagrams and maps. Afterwards the group of thirty was taken on a tour of their generating plant and control rooms. Before the meeting, the members dined at the Cove Restaurant in Tudor City.

Membership in the New York Group remained at about the same level, with some resignations and some new members. On May 1, 1950, the membership totaled 46, in the following categories: active 28; associate 7; institutional 10, student 1.

New York Group Officers for 1950-1952

Chairman - Miss Ruth M. Crawford, American Broadcasting Company
Vice-Chairman - Mr. Arthur B. Carlson, New York Historical Society
Secretary - Mr. Gerard L. Alexander, New York Public Library
Membership Chairman - Mr. Jacques S. Frazin, Rand McNally & Company

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Washington Group — Kathleen Irish, Chairman

Eight meetings were held during the year 1949-50, the first three of which were reported in Group Bulletin No. 5.

December 6, 1949, in the Museum of the Department of the Interior, Mr. H. L. Raul, Curator of the Museum of the Department of the Interior, gave a brief introductory talk on the work of the Department as illustrated by the various exhibit groups in the Museum. Thereafter he conducted the twenty-six members and guests on a most interesting tour of the Museum.

January 3, 1950, in the Whittal Pavilion of the Library of Congress, the speaker, Mr. L. L. Hunter, Assistant Supervising Architect for Public Building Services, talked on "Shelter and the American Way of Life." For the twenty-four members and guests present, he traced the development of American domestic architecture from the conical huts of the earliest settlers to the modern homes of today.

February 7, 1950, the group met in the Library of George Washington University, where Miss Irene Pistorio of the U. S. Geological Survey spoke on "The United States, the Melting Pot of Customs and Costumes." She had on display a part of her large collection of costume dolls which the nineteen members and guests present were given time to examine.

March 7, 1950, at the Library of the Bureau of Railway Economics, a joint meeting with the Transportation Group, Miss Elizabeth Cullen was held at which the Librarian of the Bureau of Railway Economics gave an illustrated talk on the development of transportation and the migrations of peoples in North America. She entitled her talk, "Five Fords and Some Possible Sacks."

April 4, 1950, at the Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Memorial Continental Hall, the Group heard the Treasurer General of the D. A. R. outline the history of the organization, and the development of its Library.

Membership in the Washington Group now totals 74 persons, as of May 1, 1950, in the following categories: active 63; associate 8; institutional 2; student 1.

The report of the Nominating Committee being incomplete, the present officers will continue to serve until such time as an election shall be held.

GROUP PROJECTS

LIBRARY JOURNAL Special Issue on Maps

One project has been brought to a successful close, although not in the form originally planned. The LIBRARY JOURNAL, Vol. 75, No. 6, March 15, 1950, was devoted to maps and map problems in a series of articles by experts on map acquisition, reference aids, cataloging, special collections, etc. The original plan of issuing a special supplement, devoted entirely to maps had to be abandoned, owing to printing difficulties. Consequently, the articles submitted had to be abridged considerably to fit the reduced space allotted to the project. We are very grateful to the several authors for making this project a success. It is hoped that in the not-too-distant future a special map manual can be produced, which will stand as a permanent reference aid to map librarians.

Map Library Resources

This Committee of the Washington Chapter has prepared a questionnaire which is to be submitted to the Association Group Chairman for consideration at the Group's annual business meeting in Atlantic City.

Committee to Study Section 7 of the Library of Congress Rules for Descriptive Cataloging

Due to a series of unforeseen circumstances, this Committee under the able leadership of Miss Muriel H. Parry has not been able to complete its final report, based upon the returns of a special group of questionnaires.

SLA-United States Map Project

As a result of discussions of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Council meetings in Washington, March 10-11, the Geography and Map Group was asked to compile a map of the United States giving the boundaries or spheres of activity of the various chapters which make up the Special Libraries Association. Mr. Jacques S. Frazin, Chairman of the New York Geography and Map Group has kindly consented to head a committee to prepare such a map. It is planned to have a preliminary draft of the map available for inspection at the Atlantic City Convention.

Map Group Manual

The Committee has reviewed the Group Manual and is preparing a Group Constitution, which it will submit at the business meeting in Atlantic City.

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Cartographic and Related Records: What Are They, How Have They Been Produced, and What are Problems of Their Administration? by Herman R. Friis. (In AMERICAN ARCHIVIST, April, 1950, p. 135-155).

The Carta Marina of Olaus Magnus, Venice, 1539 and Rome, 1572, by Edward Lynam. Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, Tall Tree Library, 1949. 40 pp. fold. plates. A critical description and excellent facsimile of one of the landmarks in 16th century cartography. $6.00

Maps and Map-Makers, by Ronald V. Tooley. London, New York, Batsford, 1949, viii, 128 pp. col. illus. An excellent work on the history of cartography, attractively illustrated, with many bibliographical references.

Maps, Topographical and Statistical, by Thomas W. Birch. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1949, xiv, 240 pp. illus., maps 15 s. An elementary treatise, but contains useful data on the drawing of distribution maps.

Equal-area Projections for World Statistical Maps, by F. Webster McBryde and Paul D. Thomas. (U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Special Publication No. 245), Washington, Government Printing Office, 1949. 50 cents. Done at the request of the Bureau of the Census by the Coast and Geodetic Survey for plotting 1950 Census data.

Advanced Surveying and Mapping, by George D. Whitmore. Scranton, Pa., International Textbook Co., 1949. 719 pp. $5.00 A valuable reference book, especially for the practicing engineer or surveyor. Includes control surveys, map compilation procedures, map revision procedures, finishing and reproduction, with chapters on photogrammetry and geodetic surveying.

Magnetic Declination in Texas, 1945, issued by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (Its Serial 717), is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office for 40 cents. The Coast and Geodetic Survey has been made the headquarters for all magnetic information in the U. S.

Webster's Geographical Dictionary. Springfield, Mass., G. & C. Merriam Co., 1949, 1,350 pp. $8.50 Includes over 40,000 of the world's important place names, with concise information, historical notes, and pronunciations.

Maps. Catalog of Copyright Entries, Third Series, is issued semi-annually by the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, since 1947. Subscriptions may be sent to the Register of Copyrights, Library of Congress, at $1.00 per year. The catalog includes approximately 2,000 titles of maps and atlases, published chiefly in the United States.

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS - Continued

Cosmopolitan World Atlas, Chicago, Rand McNally and Co., 1949. A most attractive new atlas, with maps on a broad regional basis, each one centered around a major country or significant grouping of countries.

Goode's School Atlas, 1949, newly revised by Edward B. Espenshade, Jr., is the eighth edition since it first appeared in 1922 published by Rand McNally and Company. The first portion of the book, including 48 pages, is entirely new and features world maps showing various aspects of political, physical, human and economic geography.

The Standard World Atlas, published early in 1950 by C. S. Hammond and Co., is a new publication. Many of the 96 maps plates were specially compiled for this volume.

The Advanced Atlas of Modern Geography, is a post-war revision of John Bartholomew's Advanced Atlas. Published by the Geographical Institute of Edinburgh, Scotland, it is distributed in this country though McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. There are 96 pages of maps, many of which show physical features by an improved system of layer coloring. The index contains 25,000 names.

RANDOM NOTES

Attention is called to a new method of photographing catalog cards, described in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, Feb. 15, 1950, p. 345-357. Weiman & Lester, 106 East 41st Street, New York 17, New York, do the work, and will send samples on request. In two months of giving this method of reproducing catalog cards a trial, the Map Department of the American Geographical Society had almost 2,000 copies of catalog cards made, resulting in a great saving of time, which could be used for other urgent work.

Needs, Uses, and Benefits of the National Topographic Map Series - A Symposium brings together a series of eleven papers presented at the Ninth Annual Meeting of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, Washington, D. C., June 8, 1949. They were published in SURVEYING AND MAPPING, Jan.-March 1950, pp. 3-35.

The same issue of SURVEYING AND MAPPING includes a paper by Arthur H. Robinson, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin, entitled "The Size of Lettering for Maps and Charts."

The United Nations, Department of Social Affairs has recently issued a report: Modern Cartography - Base Maps for World Needs, 1949. It is a study of the status of mapping throughout the world, and is accompanied by two maps showing the status of topographic mapping and of geodetic control surveys.

Great interest has been aroused among American cartophiles by the announcement that a unique set of globe gores by the famous cosmographer, Martin Waldseemuller would be put up for auction on May 24, 1950, at the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., in New York. Unless bids higher than $50,000 are received, the map will be withdrawn from the sale. These globe gores may have been made in the year 1507, as was the famous large wall map which is the earliest to bear the name AMERICA on the South American continent and which was made in the same year. Fortunately, the latter has survived the War.

The recently issued Volume 6 of IMAGO MUNDI, a Review of Early Cartography is a treasure store of information on historical cartography, as are also the five preceding issues, edited by Leo Bagrow. Contributions on early American Cartography are most acceptable to Dr. Bagrow, whose American editor in Dr. George Kish of the Geography Department of the University of Michigan.

In honor of Dr. Harry Clemons, retiring librarian of the University of Virginia there has been published a fine facsimile of the very rare first edition of the Fry and Jefferson map of Virginia. Only two copies of this map are known, one in the New York Public Library and the one which was reproduced in the Tracy McGregor Collection of the Alderman Library at the University of Virginia. A bibliographical study of this by Dumas Malone is on the market.

As one of tis Sesquicentennial publications, the Library of Congress is soon to publish a catalog of its atlases of the United States, under the title: United States Atlases; a List of National, State, County, City, and Regional Atlases in the Library of Congress. Some 3,500 atlases are listed.

The Library of Congress is well along on the project of making its Departmental and Divisional Manuals available generally. To date seven such manuals have been reproduced by a multilith process. One dealing with the functions and objectives of the Division of Maps is soon to appear.

The Map Information Office of the U. S. Geological Survey has issued a mimeographed report of 36 leaves entitled "Federal Surveys and Maps -- Accomplishments during 1949", which is an excellent summary of our governmental mapping activities for the year.

The American Congress on Surveying and Mapping is to hold its Tenth Annual Meeting in Washington, D. C., at the Shoreham Hotel, June 21-22-23, 1950. A preliminary program has been released, copies of which may be obtained from Mr. Murray Y. Poling, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Room 2814-B, Department of Commerce Building, Washington 25, D. C.

The Geography and Map Group owe a special vote of thanks to Mrs. LeGear and Miss Yonge for their excellent work in preparing this year the copy for the two issues of the Bulletin.- (Burton W. Adkinson).

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP GROUP MEMBERSHIP LIST
(Additions and changes to the List in Bulletin No. 5)

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Miss Emily E. Ellison
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Miss Mary Elizabeth Vance, Librarian
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